

REMARKS

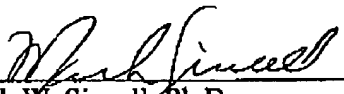
Claims 4, 19-23, 26, 30-31, 34, and 39 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1-3, 5-18, 24-25, 27-29, 32-33, 35-38, and 40-48 are pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 40-48 are allowed. The Examiner also indicated that claims 4, 10, 26, 34, and 39 include allowable subject matter. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations set forth in claim 4. Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Independent claim 24 has been amended to include the limitations set forth in claim 26. Independent claim 32 has been amended to include the limitations set forth in claim 34. Independent claim 35 has been amended to include the limitations set forth in claim 39. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable for at least the reasons set forth by the Examiner.

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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